

UNITED STATES COURTS AT WICHITA, KANS.

FEBRUARY 25, 1882.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MANNING, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 429.]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 429) "to provide for the holding a term of the district court of the United States at Wichita, Kans., and for other purposes," beg leave to report :

That the laws of the United States, so far as in this matter they are applicable, extend over the Indian Territory.

The western judicial district has jurisdiction over the whole of said Territory under existing laws.

That portion of said Territory lying west of the reservation occupied by the five civilized tribes is so inaccessible to the court for the western district of Arkansas that the law is necessarily very imperfectly administered, and not only is the law violated there with impunity, but it affords a comparatively safe refuge for criminals.

That portion of said Territory west of the civilized tribes and north of the Canadian River now is, by proximity and railway, accessible to the courts at Wichita and Fort Scott, and ought to be attached to that jurisdiction.

That portion west of the civilized tribes and south of the Canadian River is contiguous to Texas, and easy of access to the court at Graham, in the northern district of said State.

In consideration of these facts, the committee recommend the passage of the bill with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the word "court," in the seventeenth and eighteenth lines.

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